

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /065 R

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-----262129 063497 /70

P 261936Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
CINCUSAREUR PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 043640

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, GW, UR

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO CINCGSFG TO VISIT CINCUSAREUR

1. YOU SHOULD INFORM BONN GROUP OF OUR DECISION
TO RENEW INVITATION TO CINCGSFG, DRAWING ON THE
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FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS AS APPROPRIATE. INSTRUCTIONS ARE
BEING SENT SEPTEL TO US NATO TO INFORM POLADS AT NEXT
REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 1 OF DECISION ON THIS AS
WELL AS ON SEPARATE MATTER OF INVITATION TO SOVIET
CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF IN MOSCOW TO VISIT UNITED STATES.

2. USG HAS DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH PRE,ARATIONS FOR

THE LONG-DELAYED RETURN VISIT BY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF, GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN GERMANY (CINCGSFG) TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF, US ARMY EUROPE (CINCUSAREUR). WHILE NO DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON TIMING, WE ARE THINKING IN TERMS OF THIS SPRING.

3. BONN GROUP MEMBERS WILL RECALL THAT THE LAST VISIT, BY CINCUSAREUR TO CINCGSFG HEADQUARTERS, TOOK PLACE IN SEPTEMBER 1973. A RECIPROCAL VISIT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 1974 BUT WAS POSTPONED BY THE US SIDE. WE VIEW THE RESUMPTION OF PERSONAL PERIODIC CONTACTS BETWEEN US AND SOVIET COMMANDERS AS A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION

TO OUR OVERALL EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CONTACTS WITH THE USSR.

4. WE HAVE NO DESIRE TO MAKE A PUBLIC DISPLAY OUT OF THE VISIT AND INTEND THAT IT BE CARRIED OUT WITH MINIMUM EXPOSURE AND PUBLICITY. WE APPRECIATE THE PARTICULAR SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED IN SUCH A VISIT AND THE NEED FOR CLOSE CONSULTATION, ESPECIALLY WITH THE FRG, ON ARRANGEMENTS AS PLANNING PROGRESSES. THIS IS WHY WE ARE INFORMING THE BONN GROUP AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

5. FYI: THE DECISION TO INVITE THE SOVIET CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF WHICH DOES NOT AFFECT THE BONN GROUP DIRECTLY, WAS A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN THE DECISION TO RENEW THE LONG OVERDUE INVITATION TO THE CINCGSFG.

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